

Senate Resolution 909

By: Senators Staton of the 18th and Thomas of the 54th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Ralph V. Austin, Jr., M.D., for his outstanding service to the
2 State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the citizens of our state depends on access to high
4 quality physicians, well distributed throughout the state to meet the health care needs of all
5 citizens; and

6 WHEREAS, this state has long struggled with ensuring that an appropriate number of
7 primary care and specialist physicians exists in all areas of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce was created in 1976 with the
9 purpose of ensuring all Georgians access to a physician; and

10 WHEREAS, the work of the Georgia board for Physician Workforce is guided through the
11 dedicated service of health care professionals like Dr. Ralph V. Austin, Jr.; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Austin served on the board from the fall of 1998 until the spring of 2009,
13 for a total of 11 years, helping to guide the board as it developed meaningful and effective
14 programs designed to build Georgia's primary care and specialist physician workforce; and

15 WHEREAS, through dedicated leadership and cooperative spirit, Dr. Austin has supported
16 the work of the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce and helped establish the board as an
17 excellent resource for managing scarce state resources and guiding the work of the medical
18 education system in Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, this state has seen substantial improvements in the physician workforce thanks,
20 in part, to the dedicated efforts of Dr. Austin and the Georgia Board for Physician
21 Workforce.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 recognize Dr. Ralph V. Austin, Jr., for his many years of selfless service to the State of
24 Georgia and commend his efforts to improve the field of medicine and education.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
26 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Ralph V. Austin, Jr.